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tance of America as an element in the development of international law. This is especially the case on the continent where the idea of a code of international law bearing equally upon all nations and upon all parts of the earth has gotten the ascendancy in the public mind. The true point of view is one more nearly approaching that of the Anglo-Americans who look upon international law as a body of rules based on practice rather than theory—something which must therefore be flexible to allow it to fit the needs of the various countries and regions of the world.

If this thesis be true there is ground for the study of those peculiar factors which have made America important in the history of international law. Chief among these new influences the author discusses are the different points of view which developed in Europe as to the relations of colony and mother country, the effect of the development of the American colonial systems upon European politics and international relations, the causes of the emancipation of the American—especially the Latin-American states, the entry of America into the community of states; its influence on the balance of power in Europe and the influence of the example of the United States upon the states of Latin-America.

We too often consider American history—at least American history since 1775 as synonymous with the history of the United States. How partial such a view is, is well brought out in the discussion of the various efforts for united action among the Latin-American states from the Panama Congress to the Pan-American Congresses, the boundary disputes, arbitrations, civil wars, wars between Latin-American nations and with European countries. All these furnished the basis from which that mass of precedents is drawn which forms American international law. Most important of all of course is the Monroe Doctrine which the author characterizes as the basis of American international law. He believes it is a doctrine not confined to the United States but one whose principles all western states uphold. Many of its elaborations which declare the United States to have the hegemony of the Americas are repudiated. These are merely declarations of policy by the United States and form no part of American international law. This latter portion of the book is the most valuable for students in the United States. It gives an outside, critical but sympathetic interpretation of a doctrine which is fundamental in our foreign policy.

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**Brown, David W.** *The Commercial Power of Congress.* Pp. ix, 284.  
New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1910.

This is a scholarly presentation not only of the origin and original meaning of the commerce clause of the United States Constitution, but of the facts proving that the framers of the Constitution intended to establish a strong national government. The author points out that the large majority of the members of the constitutional convention were thorough-going nationalists. They represented the conservative moneyed classes; they were much alarmed

by Shays' rebellion and the other disorders that shortly preceded the convention in Philadelphia. These events caused such advocates of state rights as Richard Henry Lee, Elbridge Gerry and Charles Pinckney to "favor the erection of a central authority independent of the states and vested with great powers."

The first three chapters of the book recount the efforts made before 1786, in Congress and out, to give Congress greater power over commerce; then follows a very suggestive chapter upon the influence which the development of the West had upon the sentiment of the country in favor of a larger national power over commerce. The work of the Annapolis convention is briefly described and the work of the constitutional convention is considered with special reference to the development and formulation of the commerce clause. The struggle in the states for the adoption of the Constitution, with this clause included, is briefly told. There is a chapter upon the first tariff bill and the incorporation of the first bank of the United States; this is followed by a discussion of the records of commercial legislation in Washington's second administration, and an account of the non-importation and embargo laws for which Jefferson was responsible. The volume closes with a discussion of the effects of the decision of the United States Supreme Court in *M'Culloch vs. Maryland*, 1819, and *Gibbons vs. Ogden*, 1824. The significance of these early decisions of the Supreme Court is pointed out by referring to the recent decisions that have greatly widened the scope of the commerce clause. There are two appendices to the volume, the first one containing an essay upon the power of Congress to construct, or authorize the construction of, internal improvements; the second appendix reviews the power of Congress to levy protective tariffs.

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**Bruce, Charles.** *The Broad Stone of Empire*. Two vols. Pp. xlii, 1066. Price, \$9.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1910.

Sir Charles Bruce, after nearly forty years spent in colonial administration, has devoted his later years to correlating and summarizing the results of such experience and now presents in book form his numerous papers and addresses, so remodeled and amplified as to constitute a general survey. Regretting with Lord Milner, "the plentiful lack of thought devoted to even the biggest problems of our Empire, and especially to the biggest problem of our Crown Colonies," the book is presented as "a contribution to a thorough study of the administration of our tropical dependencies—our Crown Colonies and Places." No attempt is made to discuss conditions either in the self-governing colonies, called dominions by the author, or in India; attention is centered exclusively upon the Crown Colonies, most of which are tropical. Having variously served his country in Mauritius, Ceylon, the Windward Islands, and British Guiana, the writer is prepared to speak with authority upon the problems of Crown Colonies, which he summarizes as "problems of an appropriate form of government, appropriate laws, an appropriate population, appropriate methods of development, appropriate fiscal